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fields where I recollected to have formerly seen nothing but heath. I also saw many thousands of trees standing on the steep banks of small valleys, where neither the plough nor the spade could be profitably employed. On inquiring of a gentleman, to whom these improvements belonged, I was told they were the property of Mr Verner, who had a very large mountain estate in that country.

I shall now conclude my remarks on the subject of this gentleman's improvements. Should they, through the channel of your useful Maga-

zine, meet the eye of any gentleman who has much unprofitable bog in his estate, and induce him to enter with spirit into the plan of improving it, my motives for making them will be answered: but should my observations pass unnoticed and unregarded, I shall at least have the satisfaction of knowing that I have attempted to do justice to a gentleman who has done more towards the plan of improving waste bogs, than all the commissioners under the authority of Parliament, with large salaries, have yet done.

X. Y.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIR OF PHILIP BEAVER, ESQ., COMMANDANT OF THE SHIP NISUS.

IN selecting subjects for the Biographical department of the Belfast Magazine, especial care has been taken to exclude warriors. In the present war-loving age, when the energies of the people have been misdirected for 20 years, and their habits too generally formed on the system of continual and unceasing war, it has been thought right that the pages of this work should not minister to this really ignoble passion, but by holding civil merit up to view, whether it appeared in man or woman, to lead to the contemplation of "the peaceful virtues." In the present instance, there is an apparent departure from the general plan; but on farther inspection, it is hoped the exception from the accustomed rule will not be found to be real. Philip Beaver was a warrior by profession and by accident, but the energetic firmness which constituted the real merit

of his character, would have been as conspicuous in the arts of peace, if his situation had placed him totally out of the military class. As he is, benevolence, philanthropy, and a love of justice, joined with firmness, and the greatest perseverance, formed his distinguishing characteristics, and are deserving of imitation, and of their due praise.

It is the characteristic of true greatness, that it is always its own eulogist; and in no instance is the truth of this observation more clearly elucidated than by the instance before us; for the greatest praise which can be conferred upon Captain Beaver, will be to recount with fidelity the various events of his life, and the upright manner in which he conducted himself in those trying situations wherein it was his lot frequently to be placed. Philip Beaver was the son of the Rev. Dr. Beaver, a clergyman of the established church of England, and rector of Stokenchurch in Oxfordshire, who died in the prime of life, leaving in narrow circumstances an amiable

widow and a family of young children. At eleven years of age this son was placed under the protection of the late Admiral Sir Joshua Rowley, with whom he remained until the close of the American war, and from whom he received a lieutenant's commission, which appointment was confirmed by Lord Howe, when First Lord of the Admiralty. The peace of 1780 put him on shore; and his character was soon afterwards formed from an accidental circumstance, the contemplation of which was ever afterwards a source of great pleasure to him. It was his good fortune to enjoy for a few days the society of some well informed persons; and the difference which he discovered between his own acquirements and theirs, and the power which knowledge conferred, awakened in him a spirit of emulation and research that enabled him to surmount all obstacles. He applied himself during peace to the study of most of the European languages, and by incessant application became at length a well informed and accomplished gentleman. He visited the continent, and after travelling for some time, stopped at Bourdeaux, where the illustrious Montesquieu had resided, whose works he had attentively studied, and whose memory he respected. He was very minute in his inquiries respecting this philosopher, and became acquainted with his habits of life and manners; investigations which were always with him a favourite pursuit. At this place he formed an acquaintance with the son of Montesquieu; but his mind was too active to indulge long in literary retirement and leisure. Having acquired knowledge, he was anxious to put it to practical use; and the first attempts of the great philanthropists and friends of liberty in Great Britain to abolish the unnatu-

ral traffic in our fellow-creatures, aroused him to energy and exertion in that cause, and brought him at once to England, with a heart full of hopes and fond presages. His name must be enrolled with his fellow-labourers in the same vineyard, with those distinguished benefactors of mankind, Sharpe and Clarkson. If Captain Beaver's efforts in England have not appeared so prominent as theirs, it was because his mind was directed to the shores of Africa, where he was desirous of raising, by a free people, the same articles of commerce that were in the West Indies produced by the labour of slaves. From this he hoped much good might result, and concluded that avarice would be satisfied to receive the same gains, without misery, that were acquired by the groans and sorrows of thousands of their fellow creatures. But in this he was mistaken: without a temptation of greater benefits, the slave dealer and the merchant were not to be charmed to relax their hold.

When that fleet was dismantled, which, pending the differences between Great Britain and Russia, relative to the possession of Oczakow, had been kept at Spithead during the summer of 1791, Mr. Beaver found himself without professional employment, young, and not inclined to be inactive. He preferred being fully and usefully employed, to lounging about the streets of London, and having formed many schemes which were not executed, he at length engaged with a few gentlemen in attempting a settlement on the uninhabited island of Bulāma,* near the mouth of the ri-

* This island, called Bulam or Boulam in old charts, has been invariably written Bulama by Mr. Beaver, as being most consonant to the pronunciation of the natives.

ver Grande, on the western coast of Africa, in the 11th degree of north latitude. Having advertised their plan, many subscribers were soon obtained; and, on April 13, 1792, (little more than three months after the commencement of the project,) two hundred and seventy five colonists, including men, women, and children, left England, in three vessels, (the *Calypso*, *Hankey*, and *Beggar's Benison*;) for the place of their destination. With such haste and inexperience was this affair concerted, that they illegally proceeded to form a constitution for the future regulation of the colony, without the approbation of Government. The motives, indeed, were highly creditable to the gentlemen concerned, and if their measures were irregular, they could not be attributed to sedition; for their sole objects were to purchase land in Africa from those who claimed a right to the soil, and not to take forcible possession of it; to try whether it could not be cultivated by free natives, to induce the degraded Africans to labour and industry, and to ameliorate their condition by the introduction of religion and letters. It will easily be supposed that a number of colonists, who were hastily obtained from all quarters by means of public advertisements, did not all enter into these sublime views; and that the majority of them did not weigh the nature of the undertaking, but engaged in it with the hope of exchanging their present ills for some happy region beyond the Atlantic. Scarcely, however, were they embarked when discontents arose; and Mr. Beaver perceived that he had collected individuals whose character and conduct did not augur success. In a journal which he kept from the time of leaving England to the final evacuation of the island of Bulama, he presents an

interesting account of the hardships and privations which he suffered. If ability, zeal, fortitude, and perseverance, were ever conspicuous, they were manifested in his conduct on this occasion; and though the plan was unquestionably ill-concerted, and the series of events lamentably disastrous, the object was laudable, and the efforts of Mr. Beaver were highly creditable to his patriotism and to his heart. He has given so plain and unvarnished a tale, that we have no doubt of his veracity, though his hardships and exertions appear to be almost incredible. The pictured situation of Robinson Crusoe, on a desert island, is scarcely less melancholy and soul-depressing than was that of Mr. Beaver during the greatest part of his residence on the island of Bulama; and his journal cannot be perused without a feeling of wonder that he survived to tell the tale. If colonization on the Western coast of Africa must be accompanied with such privations and afflicting circumstances as he and the settlers whom he conducted experienced, few will be disposed to make a second trial.

It is the object, however, of this intrepid officer, while he details the sad history of the Bulama expedition, to lessen the practical impression which it is calculated to produce on the public mind, by explaining the cause of its failure; and by giving such views of the country and the people as may induce to make another experiment, with a similar intention, though with more efficient and wisely directed means.

Soon after the colonists sailed, the *Calypso* parted company, and Mr. Beaver's laborious task commenced. From his journal entitled "*African Memoranda*," some extracts shall be given, in order that the reader

may be more fully acquainted with the benevolent and energetic firmness of this intrepid character.

"April 20th, 1792. The wind had hitherto been very moderate, but it increased so much, as to produce a sea which was very inconvenient to those unaccustomed to it, and the consequence was, that most of the landmen, and all the women, were sea-sick; the latter had been more than twenty-four hours without nourishment of any kind, and would have been so much longer if I had not undertaken to cook for them; for some, who would have relieved them if able, were labouring under the same disease; and the surgeon, whose more immediate duty it was to attend to them, was wholly destitute of feeling; he left to those, who had folly enough to feel, the charge of taking care of his patients; this certainly was not a very dignified employment, it was at least a useful one, and had I not undertaken it, these poor women might have suffered much from hunger ere any other would have relieved them. I had already been employed since our sailing in functions equally low, and therefore was in some degree prepared for it; but at times I was compensated for the meanness of these employments, by the exercise of authority pertaining to more dignified posts, for I verily believe, that there is not an office or gradation of rank in naval service, from the admiral and commander-in-chief down to the jack of the bread-room, which I had not already exercised in this ship. The fact is, that to govern and maintain order and regularity among a licentious rabble, without any legal power, was an exceedingly difficult task, and only to be accomplished by example. I soon perceived, that I must either give up the point, which threatened ruin to the undertaking, or accomplish it

by the constant exercise of unremitting exertions; the latter was most congenial to my mind, and therefore there was no employment however humble in the general opinion of the world, which I hesitated to undertake; but, having once done this, I ordered whom I pleased afterwards to perform the same duty, and the consequence was, that from the sailing of the expedition to the final abandoning of the island, I was never more cheerfully, willingly, nor implicitly obeyed, when armed with the authority of martial power, than I was by the members who were embarked in this undertaking.

"We had now been long enough together to enable me to form some opinion of the probability of our success, from the general conduct and character of the colonists. I had from the first conceived, that we had great exertions to make, and many difficulties to overcome, before we could succeed in the establishment of a new colony; but at the same time thought, that the exertions of every individual being directed to the same end, would eventually insure our success; and not until I had been a week at sea, with this motley assemblage of unthinking mortals, was I convinced that those hopes which rested on the disinterested energy of individuals, must be forever given up: not that we had not any one on board the *Hankey* calculated for the expedition we had undertaken; we certainly had some, but their number was small, very small indeed, when compared to all that were embarked.

"Among some of those who had the direction of the enterprise, a constant attention to their own individual interest, and an entire neglect of that of the public; among others of them, a total indifference to both; and a general apathy in all towards the adoption of such mea-

suces as would contribute to our success, left little ground for hope; added to which, the general conduct of the subscribers was not such as to afford to the labourers an example of severe morality."

Though the vessels were appointed to rendezvous at Teneriffe, previously to their proceeding for Bulama, the Calypso, which first arrived at the former island, did not wait for its companions, but made all haste to reach the latter; and its crew having imprudently taken forcible possession of it, they were attacked by the Africans, and several of them were slain and made prisoners. When Mr. Beaver arrived, after an interesting voyage in the Hankey, he found the first detachment of settlers dispirited by this melancholy circumstance; and the majority of the adventurers soon resolved on abandoning the colony, in the Calypso. He prevailed, however, on a part to persevere in their original intention; and having made a purchase of the island of Bulama from the neighbouring kings, he took possession of it on July 19, 1792, with only 86 colonists, (besides 4 seamen and a boy,) who had unanimously voted him their president.

Of the 275 persons who sailed from England, in order to settle on the island, there remained to him, after eleven months were elapsed, only three white and two black men, with two boys; who, together with three sailors, made the whole strength of the colony! His own exertions were so severe and unremitting, that it is impossible to give an adequate idea of them, without transcribing more of his journal than would be convenient. When he saw the settlers almost daily falling sacrifices to the unhealthiness of the climate, and to despondency of mind, it is surprising that his own firmness remained unshaken; and that he him-

self should have survived several attacks of fever with which he was afflicted. A memorandum, made on the day following his recovery from a severe illness, will show the character of the man, and his ardour in the enterprise which he conducted:

"*Friday, August 17th, 1792.* The three days preceding this, I have not been out of my bed. On the 14th, I was very ill, but not supposed to be in immediate danger; from the morning of the 15th, I grew gradually worse, till about eight in the evening, when my recovery was absolutely despaired of.

"I am aware that I shall be accused of consummate vanity, for what I am now about to write: be it so, for I allow that even to the last moment of my recollection, when I absolutely thought that I was no longer for this world; when I was actually deprived of my speech, but not of my senses, I felt great consolation in what I heard every one say of me; for as no one conceived that I was sensible, or could possibly live an hour longer, they probably spoke only their real sentiments.

"The people had crowded about the cabin-door all day, inquiring after my health, and showed great anxiety for my recovery. As the front of the cabin, from one side of the ship to the other, was one continued window, I could hear every thing that was said, but could not be seen, on account of a canvass screen round that part where my cot hung. Reader! if this should ever be seen by other eyes than my own,*

* Mr. Beaver had not originally intended to publish his journal, but in the latter part of the summer of 1802, public attention was turned towards Africa, and the under secretary of state requested Mr. Beaver's opinion on the best mode of

call me vain if you please, for I do assure you that I was exceedingly so, when I heard every individual speaking only my praise; the breath of slander itself could not accuse me of any one thing which I wished not the world to know: every one said, that I had killed myself by my exertions for their good; that labouring and exposing myself so much as I had done, no constitution could stand; that now they *must* go home, for, as they had lost me, there was no one left who could take care of them.

"Between seven and eight in the evening, I could no longer articulate, but was seized with a rattling in my throat, which I conceived to be a symptom of my no very distant dissolution.

"I can with truth aver, that if, in these moments, I had the least wish to live, it was to preserve this colony. Death! if thou never comest clothed in greater terrors, I shall ne'er be afraid to meet thee; for the happiest moments of my existence were those, when I expected to cease to be. May my future life be such, as to enable me always to meet thee thus!

"About nine, I fell into a dose; and did not awake until late next morning, the 16th, when I was out of danger; and am this day well enough to sit up a little."

Immediately after the arrival of the colonists at Bulama, Mr. Beaver commenced his labours, by clearing the ground for the erection of a block-house.

"*Wednesday, August 22d.* Knowing the indolence of most of the colonists, and at the same time convinced of their interested disposi-

tions, for they have no idea of doing any one thing, unless the whole good promised by it centres in *SELF*, I think the only, or at any rate the surest and readiest, way to get a covering, or a house, for every individual, is by making every individual interested in the same building. And as a block house is absolutely necessary for our defence, I think it best to make the same building answer the double purpose of defence and dwelling. By these means, too, I shall have every one under my own eye; and, being collected in one body, we shall, of course, be much stronger than if separated. I therefore intend to allot a single house, all of equal dimensions, to each subscriber, and one of another class of houses, also of equal dimensions, to each married labourer, the single ones to occupy them by fours; and these houses shall be drawn for by lot, that no one may complain of preference of situation, &c. But to encourage the industrious, those who work most shall have their houses covered first.

"Was I, instead of building this block-house, to suffer every man to build a house for himself, the inconveniences would be many. For instance, should he chuse an improper place, I cannot interfere. If it is an unhealthy spot, he will say, I am to inhabit it, and not you; if too distant, and I cannot protect him, he runs the risk, and not me; if the house he is building be too small and too weak, he, only, will have thrown away his time in erecting it, the inconvenience will be his, and not mine; if the house be too large and too strong, some time will have been thrown away, he will have lost that time, and not me; should he work but little, and I reproach him with idleness, he will say, if my house is not finished in due time, I may be exposed to the

opening a communication with, and of exploring the interior; the consequence was the publication of the *African Memoranda*.

inclemency of the weather, but not you: thus should I for ever be answered, were I ever to interfere with the building of their private houses. One man would be building a drawing-room, while a much better would be content with a kitchen. If it be objected that these people will not act so ridiculously, that they will see the necessity of building and living close together for their mutual defence, and that they will sacrifice many little conveniences for the PUBLIC GOOD, I answer to the former, that I have seen them, if possible, act more ridiculously; the latter they none of them comprehend."

To relieve the colonists in their severe labour, and to supply the deficiencies occasioned by the ravages of mortality, Mr. Beaver hired Grumetas, or native African servants; who were very useful in burning the wood, in clearing and inclosing the ground intended to be planted, and in erecting the block house.

A strong constitution, with a mind not easily depressed, nor easily diverted from its purpose, had enabled Mr. Beaver to make exertions to which every individual was not equal. It required an intrepidity and firmness of character to keep the major part of the colonists within the bounds of decency and decorum. Many were dissipated, vicious characters, and some of them most infamous. A Memorandum, dated December 18th, 1792, inserted on his recovering from a subsequent fever, will display his uncomfortable situation.

"Continue to get better. A fine breeze from the N.E. Peter and my man continue at work; but what is their work to what we have to do? It is like a drop of water compared with the ocean. Peter is weak, and Watson is not very strong. Died, and was buried, Joseph Riches.

Myself well enough to walk about a little; the N.E. wind continued to blow fresh all day, the thermometer in the morning was 72, and has not risen higher than 77; in short, it has been the coolest and pleasantest day that I have yet experienced on the island. Its bracing coolness has almost cured me, who have been from day-light till dark exposed to it, while our indolent sick have been pent up all day in their eating house, which has scarcely been cleaned since they came on shore, rather than exert themselves so much as to go into this renovating air. In the evening, when we leave off work, Peter goes on board the cutter; and my man and myself remain to defend the block-house! 'tis well we are not attacked. Since the departure of Hankey, I have had no one to speak to, no conversation. I do not think it safe to show lights, and therefore cannot read in the evening: indeed, my head at present could not bear it; so that after we leave off work, I sit about two hours alone in the dark, in sullen deliberation on what we are to do on the morrow, and then go to bed. How different this, from the life I have been accustomed to!

"Since the first of this month, of 19 men, 4 women, and 5 children, we have buried 9 men, 3 women, and 1 child, which is, except one, half of the whole colony. It is melancholy, no doubt, but many have absolutely died through fear. More courage, and greater exertions, I firmly believe, would have saved many of them; but a lowness of spirits, a general despondency, seems to possess every body. When taken ill, they lie down and say that they know they shall die; and, what is very remarkable, I have never yet known one to recover, after having in such a manner given himself up. Much of the mortality may be attributed to the uncommon depression

of spirits, which our situation produced on the minds of the colonists; and I verily believe, that I should have died too, if I had ever suffered my mind to be so subdued."

The neighbouring tribes of natives frequently visited the Bulama settlement. The Bijugas were very ferocious, and had it not been for a belief that Mr. Beaver possessed in an uncommon degree a power, which they ascribe to all white men, of performing miracles, the lives of the colonists would have been in imminent danger.

"Monday, March 24, 1793. In the evening, at the request of Belchore,* we fired several six pound shot in various directions, to the great admiration of the Bijugas, particularly one, which I had told them, before it was fired, should come out of the water four or five times. It did so in fact seven times; and they all exclaimed, clapping their hands, "all white man witch;" this, simple as it appears to us, they could by no means comprehend, and thought that nothing short of witchcraft could possibly foresee that a shot fired into the water should come out of it again four or five times. Another shot, they were told, should go through a tree, distant I suppose not more than 200 yards. It went through its centre, and they were all astonishment; but what seemed to stupify them with wonder, was the accidental circumstance of my sitting upon one of these six-pounders while it was fired.

"I amused Belchore and his people, as well as myself, in showing them many things which rivetted their faith in my magic power, and which they at last believed to be unlimited.

"I made them remark the north point of my circumferenter, and then desiring them to turn it several times round, or put it in any other position, observe that they had not the power of moving that point, because I had ordered it to remain where it was. They saw that it was so, and could not comprehend why it was, unless by my power, fixed to that point. The bubble in the spirit-level of my theodolite, they thought alive; and the distinctness with which they viewed distant objects, through a good telescope, increased their belief in my magic. But there was one thing yet to show them, which would fully convince them that nothing was to me impossible. It was near noon, and I was regulating my watch by the sun. The watch had for some time taken up their attention, which they thought, as well as the spirit level, was alive; particularly after (for at first they would not believe that the minute hand had motion, which is too slow to be readily perceived by the eye,) I had made one of them hold a pin five minutes before the minute-hand, and then explained to him, that in a certain time that hand would go to the pin, and then pass it; for instance, whilst another walked to a certain tree, and back again. This they all perceived; but wonderful as it was to them, it ceased instantly, as well as every thing else, to occupy any of their attention, when I played off my last trick. With my quadrant I brought the sun down upon the top of the block house, and then desired Belchore to look at it, which he did, and then, one after another, all his people; when, placing one of his men before me, I told him that I would put the sun upon his head. The poor Bijuga at first was very much frightened, and unwilling to stand where I desired him; but, on

* The king of the Bijugas.

my repeated assurances that no harm should come to him, he consented, and I shewed to his astonished countrymen the sun upon his head.

"In the evening Belchore left me. He had been much struck with the strength and magnitude of our building, and will never hereafter, I am confident, attempt any thing against us. Besides, what can he expect to achieve against a man who can sit upon a cannon "against which there is no gris-gris"* while it is fired; and can put the sun upon another man's head?

"May 10th. For sometime past a wonderful stupidity seems to have possessed all the colonists, except Mr. Scott. Whether it arises from sickness, or from fear, or from both, I cannot tell; but the fact is evident; their minds, if ever they had any, are annihilated. It is very strange, but not the less true, that the memory of every individual, Mr. Scott excepted, is exceedingly impaired, in some to such a degree as to render them almost idiots.

"Sunday, 12th. Read prayers. Served fowls to the colonists. In the evening exercised great guns and small arms; and played the conjuror to my Biatara friends †

While Mr Beaver was thus employed at Bulama, the war broke out between England and France, and he received a summons to attend his duty as a lieutenant in the navy. His feelings on this occasion will be best

understood by extracting from his Memoranda the answer he returned to Sir Philip Stephens, then Secretary to the Admiralty.

"Wednesday, July 24th. Weather variable. Employment and sick as before. Wrote to the trustees. Although no earthly consideration would have induced me to have placed myself in my present situation, could I have foreseen, on our leaving England, that we were so near a war, or even that there was a distant probability of one; yet, being here, I cannot leave it. Had, I say, war been foreseen, I had never been here; and although I have every thing to expect—promotion, wealth, honour—by immediately joining my profession; nay, though by the condition of my leave of absence by the Admiralty, I am obliged to do so within six months after being so required by the Gazette, which time is now elapsed, yet I cannot do it.* How can I go? If I take every body with me I abandon the colony when there is no necessity for so doing; I deceive those who placed themselves under my care; I betray the subscribers at home; I betray the interests of humanity. It is true I am under no written obligation; I receive no pay; I receive no support; I have no master; true; but I feel that I ought to stay, and therefore, be the consequences what they may, here will I remain. Should I go, and leave the colonists, they would all be killed; they could not exist without me. Should I not in that case, besides desertion, be guilty of murder? What do I get by remaining here? Nothing. Yes,

* Sentences of the Koran neatly sewed up in leather, or cloth, and attached to the neck, arms, wrist, or ancles of the people, who firmly believe in the efficacy of their virtue. If, by good fortune, any one wearing these charms should accidentally escape any misfortune or evil, which seemed almost inevitable, it would be attributed to the virtue of his gris-gris.

† The Biatara nation are much more peaceable than the Bijaga.

"* My half-pay was consequently stopped, not for the time that I was in Africa only, but for the six months preceding, which I have never since received."

I do; the satisfaction of feeling that I act as I ought to do. I have therefore written to the Admiralty the following letter:

"Island of Bulama, July 24th, 1793.

"Sir,

"I have to request that you will be pleased to inform their Lordships, that, by a vessel which arrived here on the 22d inst., I was informed that all half-pay officers have been ordered, through the medium of the Gazette, to return to England: also to inform them that I have here the direction of a small colony, whose very existence depends upon my presence. *If I disobey their Lordship's orders in the Gazette, I know that I am liable to lose my commission; and if I obey it, I never deserved one.*

"I hope their Lordships will observe the peculiar difficulty of my situation, and give me credit when I aver that the King has not an officer more attached to him, his country, and constitution, than myself; that it is with the greatest regret I find myself obliged to be absent from the fleet in the time of war; and that I shall embrace the first opportunity of joining my profession.

"I have the honor to be Sir,

"Your most obedient and very humble servant,

"P. BEAVER.

"To Philip Stephens, Esq."

Such situations as this are the tests of true greatness of character. That man in whom principle and duty outweigh the allurements of wealth and honour, becomes a beacon, whose light will guide many through the crooked paths of servility and baseness; and never was a light of this kind more vivid than that which was reflected from the bosom of Captain Beaver.

A curious trait of the human mind

is exhibited in the fear and despondency which seized the minds of the colonists when they became alarmed lest they should not survive to visit their native country.

"Friday, Oct. 11th, 1793. It has before been observed that sickness, fear, and despondency, have had strange effects upon the minds of the colonists: indeed they are at this moment, every one of them, almost idiots; their mental faculties seem entirely worn out; loss of memory, or difficulty of recollection, with which they are all more or less affected, I have been accustomed to think they had in some degree really feigned; and had attributed to indolence, in a great measure, their frequent omission of doing things which they had been ordered to do, and which was always excused by "I really forgot, Sir;" but to-day I have had two remarkable instances of the total failure of memory in Mr. Hood and Peter Hayles. The former thought he was well enough to do a little work, and begged I would give him something to do. I accordingly lined a post for him to square, part of which he did square, and then eat his dinner; went to work again on the post, left off, lay down and took a nap, awoke and came into the square about an hour afterwards, that is, about five o'clock. I asked him how he proceeded with the post, and if he felt himself at all fatigued? He asked what post? "The post I lined for you to square in the morning," I replied. "I do not recollect your lining any post," said he. "Who then lined the post that you have been squaring to-day?" I asked. "I have not been squaring any post to-day," was his reply. "Why, what have you been working at then?" I asked. "I have not been at any work to-day," was

the answer. I took this man to the post where he had squared it, and yet could not convince him that it had been done by him this very day: he remembered nothing at all of the matter. This seems almost incredible, but it is every word true; and I am thoroughly convinced, that the want of recollection was not feigned, for Mr. Hood is a man of veracity, and a good, quiet, harding-working man, always willing to do whatever is in his power.

"The other instance was in Peter Hayles. A new canoe, just finished, stopped here in her way from the Rio Grande to Bissao. I thought it was the largest I had seen in this country, and therefore after dinner gave Peter Hayles my rule, and desired him to go down on the beach and measure this boat, that is, to bring to me its length, breadth, and depth. He left me about three o'clock, and had to walk about three minutes to the boat. I saw nothing of him again till near sun-set: he had been wandering along the beach all that time, his mind totally unoccupied. "Well, Peter, where are the dimensions of the boat, and why did you not bring them to me sooner?" said I. "What boat, Sir? what dimensions?" said he. "The canoe that I sent you down to measure," I replied. "You never sent me to measure any canoe," he answered. "What, have you then not measured the canoe?" I asked. "No," was the answer. "For what purpose, then, did I give you my rule?" "You never gave me any rule, Sir." "Feel in your pocket," said I. The rule was there, but Hayles had no idea how it came there, nor the most distant recollection of my having given it to him.

"I fear that what I have written will not be believed; for even to me it appears incredible; it is, nevertheless, every word true. How is it

to be accounted for? I have had sickness as well as others, more bodily exertion than any other individual, and more mental exertion than all of them put together; and yet I am the only person in the colony whose memory is totally unimpaired. It is true, I have never been afraid, while every other person has lived in fear and trembling for these last eleven months. Whether or not fear can produce such effects, I shall leave to the physician and to the philosopher to determine. The fact is as I state it.

"Before the boy Hodgekinson left me, he has frequently, when sent with a message across the square, returned more than once to ask what he was sent for, incapable of retaining what had been committed to his memory for that short distance.

"*November 21st, 1793.* An instance occurred to-day, of imbecility of mind, in one of the colonists; that, accustomed as I have been to observe repeated proofs of it in them all, perfectly astonished me. We have many half, and quarter, minute sand glasses, by which to heave the log, for the purpose of keeping the vessel's way, and ascertaining its position. Most of these are damaged by the rain, and will not run. I was therefore obliged to open them, dry the sand, and, when replaced, ascertain the number of seconds that each would run. My watch had no second-hand, neither had any other on the island, but I thought this might be done by means of the vibration of a pendulum, which, when fixed, Dowlah was desired to count out loud, while I watched the running of the sand. He went on to eleven, and there stopped. I was surprised, but desired him to begin again. He again counted to eleven, and stopped. I asked him why he did not go on? He said he could not count any farther. "Try," said

said I; "after eleven comes twelve, then thirteen, fourteen, and fifteen, which is as far as I want you to go, as it is only a quarter of a minute glass that I am trying." He began again, and again, but never could get beyond eleven. Count then to ten, said I, and then begin at one, and count up again: this I could not get the idiot to do, he could not comprehend it, and all that I could get from him was, "that he once, in Scotland, got a little learning, but that he had forgot it all again; he did not know how it was, but so it was, that he had forgot it all again." Incredible as this may appear, every person on the island can vouch for it, and I was obliged to get another person to count the vibrations. This man is a Lascar, but has been, since his youth, in England."

At length, the number of settlers being reduced to six, of whom three were ill, and one lame, Mr. Beaver was obliged to yield to their determination to quit the island, after the block-house had been constructed, and nearly fifteen acres of ground were cleared and enclosed.

The obstacles and the unforeseen difficulties which he had to encounter in his attempt to accomplish the plan of colonization, would have broke a spirit less enthusiastic, or less devoted to its object; but his ardour rose with opposing circumstances, and his mind was so fruitful in expedients, that he had almost always a remedy at hand as soon as an

evil presented itself: all that a single human being could accomplish in his situation was done. After having, by his valour and fortitude as the Governor of the colony, endeared himself to the few remaining inhabitants, having buried sixty of his companions with his own hands; like Charles at Bender, he refused to quit his post until the last extremity; which measure he at length adopted, after a contest of two years, with the sorrows and discontents of the colonists, the attacks of the savages, and the deadly malignity of the climate.

On his departure from Bulama, he makes the following Memorandum.

"Friday, November 29th, 1793. I must confess that in going out of the harbour I feel a great reluctance at being obliged to abandon a spot which I have certainly very much improved; and to see all my exertions, my cares and anxieties for the success of this infant colony, entirely thrown away. But, at the same time, I do feel an honest consciousness, that every thing that could be reasonably expected from me, has been done, to secure, though without success, its establishment."

Mr. Beaver arrived at Sierra Leone with a single companion of his misfortunes, with whom he embarked for England, and arrived at Plymouth on the 17th of May, 1794, after an absence of little more than two years.

(To be continued.)

DETACHED ANECDOTES AND OBSERVATIONS.

GARRICK'S DIRECTIONS TO PREACHERS.

WHEN Dr. Stonehouse, who was one of the most correct and eloquent preachers in the kingdom,

first entered into orders, he procured by his acquaintance with Garrick, some valuable instructions in elocution. Being once engaged to read